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Serial No. 09/966,194

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. By the present amendment, claims 2 and 4-8 have been cancelled. Claims 15-21 have been added. Claim 1 has been amended.

The Examiner's indication that claims 2 and 4-8 would be allowed if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC §112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is acknowledged with appreciation.

Claim 15 is claim 2 rewritten in independent form. Claim 16 is claim 4 which now depends from claim 15. Claim 17 is claim 6 which now depends from claim 16. Claim 18 is claim 8 which now depends from claim 17. Claim 19 is claim 5 rewritten in independent form. Claim 20 is claim 7 which now depends from claim 19. Thus, claims 15-20 should be allowed.

Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Hara et al. (US 5,063,833). Anticipation requires a single prior art reference that discloses each element of the claim. W.L. Gore & Associates v. Garlock, Inc., 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 469 U.S. 851 (1984). Additionally, the single prior art reference must disclose each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim. Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick Co., 221 U.S.P.Q. 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984). "There must be

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Claim 21 is patentable over the cited prior art and especially the patent to Hara et al. The patent to Hara et al. does not disclose a first swiveling axle and a second swiveling axle, about which each vane pivots at the same time and that the first swiveling axle is spaced apart from the second swiveling axle.

The fin shaft 4 of the fin 3c of Hara et al. is fixedly connected to the lever 5. The lever 5 is fixedly connected to the pin 6 which is slidable in a groove 8 of a control member 7. The shaft 4 pivots about an axis "L". Since the shaft 4, the lever 5 and the pin 6 are all fixedly connected, all three pivot about the same axis "L". There is no second pivot axis disclosed in Hara et al. (See Hara et al., Figure 2 and col. 3 lines 53-61). Thus, claim 21 should be allowed.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

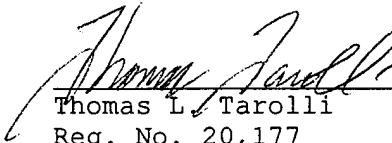
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

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Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in
the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account
No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) An air diffuser [,in particular for vehicle air-conditioning, said air diffuser] comprising:
 - a housing,
 - a plurality of vanes of which each is pivotally mounted,
 - [and]
 - an adjustment element by means of which an orientation of said vanes can be adjusted,
 - a sliding guide, and
 - a first coupling element being provided with which each vane is coupled so as to be rotatable relative to said first coupling element about a first swiveling axle, said first coupling element being supported on said housing so as to slide in said [a] sliding guide, and a second swiveling axle being provided on each vane spaced apart from said first swiveling axle.